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V For Vendetta Analysis

Nice Hook!

Ever since I can remember I have been defiant. Tell me to sit, and I stand. I can only have one cookie? I take two or three. When I was younger I used to whine and cry if I did not get my way, and most of the time I still do. I always saw a problem with not getting what I wanted. Everything I said was always right, and if you argued with me you were wrong. From the time my brain was developed enough to reason I have been using it to argue my point ferociously. When I was about six I argued with my mom up and down about how the nachos from Taco Bell tasted different until she eventually sent me to my room, only to find out later that they were in fact different. When I get an idea in my head it stays there, and I fight for it. That is why I chose to read and watch V for Vendetta. The graphic novel was written by Alan Moore and later made into a film directed by James McTeigue. The story follows a man who fights for what he believes in, much like me. The movie was more enjoyable for many reasons. There are several elements that contribute to the flawlessness of the film that the book is without. They were able to take the already good story from comic and turn it into a fast paced action-packed movie loaded with talented actors. For these reasons, the motion picture of V for Vendetta is supreme. *excellent style!*

The graphic novel takes place in an English city during the late 1990^s. A fascist government is in power and the population is under constant surveillance. Adam J Susan, also known as Leader, is a racist and homophobic dictator who violently crushes any opposition to his

system. All is calm and orderly until a masked man, known only as "V," emerges from the shadows of the city. V is a man dedicated to protecting the freedom that the government has so easily taken away. One night V saves Evey Hammond, a sixteen-year-old orphan girl, from a mob of corrupt policemen. He takes her to watch his explosion of Parliament before taking her back to his hideout known as the Shadow Gallery. From here Evey learns about V and his plans. Next, V destroys the Old Bailey courthouse, and then kills three prominent members of the government, all of which were connected to an old government retention camp. Eventually Evey is separated from V and is caught by police who torture her for information about "codename V." When they cannot break her for information, Evey is released and she finds out it was V testing her all along. After a brief spout of anger, she understands the purpose behind what he did. She joins V and they continue their work to bring anarchy to England. Meanwhile, Eric Finch, a detective who has been dogging V all along, gets closer to revealing the identity of "codename V." Ultimately Finch manages to kill V, and Evey assumes the position as the new masked terrorist. She carries out his dream and sends a train full of explosives to destroy the Prime Minister's residence. England is overrun with anarchy. Masked as the new V, Evey saves Dominic Stone, another police officer, from a mob and recruits him as the new apprentice, much like V did with Evey. The reader is left to imagine what comes of the new masked hero and the country that has recently plunged into chaos.

Sounds good!
nice word.

Similar to the book, the setting of the movie is a dystopian government-controlled city in England. The only difference is the date is now in the 2020's and government is run by Adam Sutler, also known as Chancellor. Evey Hammond is now a twenty-something-year-old working for a news station. When she is rescued ^{by} from V, he takes her to the top of a building to watch the explosion of the Old Bailey rather than Parliament. V does not take Evey in until later when he

takes over the news building and broadcasts a message to the population. The plot follows the book from here until the end. Adam Sutler is assassinated by a high-ranking official, Peter Creedy. Creedy meets with V in an abandoned tunnel with a small army of police officers. V manages to kill all of them but is mortally wounded. Just like in the book he dies in Evey's arms back at the Shadow Gallery. This time when his body is loaded onto a train it is sent to destroy Parliament. Thousands of people are gathered outside Parliament dressed in V's costume as the building explodes into fireworks and music. Both book and movie greatly emphasize freedom and the idea of not being controlled by your government. ✓ ok

Like most stories, there were some major changes that occurred when the book was turned into film. These differences did not affect the overall theme of the story but they did make it better. The theme never changes through the transition, but how they illustrate it does. For example, at the end of the comic V is killed but Evey puts on the outfit and makes an appearance to make it appear as if he has never died. ^{loosely (really "graphic novel" is more appropriate)} This scene is used to show V's dreams and ideas living on even through his death. In the movie on the other hand, it is a bit different. At the end V is pumped full of lead by a dozen or so automatic rifles but stands through it and ends up killing everyone that was shooting him. After Creedy fires another five bullets into V he asks, "Why won't you die?" From here V replies with a speech about ideas being bulletproof. After he kills Creedy, he hobbles home and eventually dies, but the public never sees this weakness. The movie depiction of this theme is not only more entertaining, but it shows V as even more of a hero. Besides, a sixteen-year-old girl simply cannot replace such an awesome character as V. ✓ good.

When comparing the plot of these two stories, the movie comes out on top. The sequence of events is much more logical and effective in the theatrical version. For instance, instead of

starting out the saga with the destruction of Parliament, the story is built up to a climactic ending with the destruction of Parliament in the end. Parliament is the supreme legislative body of the country. It is the center of all the law of the land. The destruction of Parliament goes beyond the physical damage done to a building; it signifies law and order being broken. All of this makes Parliament a much more significant of a target than the home of the Prime Minister which the book uses.

✓ I agree!

In addition to the sequence of events, the overall pace of the movie is a lot more enjoyable. The book strays from the main idea of the plot and involves a lot of side stories. This results in more complicity which in turn results in a harder-to-follow book. Not only does it become harder to follow, but it also becomes more boring. The film on the other hand, is nonstop action. It treads through the plot like a seal through water. If there are not bullets and blades flying through the air, then there is a pause in action that is actually important and interesting at the same time.

Next, the setting of the written version is not convincing. When reading the book, it is hard to get a good grasp of what type of environment it was. In the graphic novel there is no narration. *- definitely adds to the movie!* This means everything the reader learns about the atmosphere of the country is from pictures and dialogue. The drawings have very little detail and are sometimes nothing more than smears of colors. On the contrary, the film is able to illustrate the setting more thoroughly. Most of the time it is dark to give a gloomy feel. Security cameras and police officers are often in the background during scenes to show the extreme government control. Setting is a major part of every story and should be conveyed properly to the audience.

When it comes to the characters of the story, the book falls short. To start, V is never shown as the "super hero" that everyone loves to see. His mental stability is very questionable